



Department of Energy
Idaho Operations Office
850 Energy Drive
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401-1563

March 14, 2002

Douglas K. Jorgensen
Acting Manager of Projects
Environmental Restoration
Bechtel BWXT Idaho, LLC
P.O. Box 1625, MS 3921
Idaho Falls, ID 83415

SUBJECT: Concurrence with V-Tanks Path Forward (EM-ER-02-040)

Reference: Letter from D. K. Jorgensen to K. E. Hain titled, Recommended Path Forward for Operable Unit 1-10 V-tanks Remedial Action, dated 3/4/02

Dear Mr. Jorgensen:

The referenced letter requested DOE concurrence with BBWT's recommended path forward for the V-tanks remedial action. DOE concurs that in-situ vitrification, in-container vitrification, thermal desorption, and chemical oxidation/stabilization should be evaluated further. DOE also agrees that a short, focused design study should be done concurrent with the technology evaluations to determine if a significant volume of liquid in the V-tanks could be decanted, treated, and disposed of as an early risk and cost reduction measure. The design study should also cover other measures that are cost effective and that would be beneficial to moving the remedial action forward, such as soil sampling, piping isolation/removal, and soil excavation. DOE recommends that the schedule for this work include a proposed plan and ROD amendment rather than an ESD.

DOE appreciates the work done to replan the V-tanks remedial action and looks forward to keeping the project moving ahead. If you have any questions regarding this issue please call Mark Shaw at 526-6442.

Sincerely,

Kathleen E. Hain

Kathleen E. Hain, Manager
Environmental Restoration Program